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23 June 1982

[Redacted]

Executive Officer, DDS&T

Room 6E45 Hqs.

For the report to the DDCI.

[Redacted]

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DD/FBIS

1013

Key
2927

DDS&T/FBIS,

[Redacted]

(23Jun82)

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CONFIDENTIALFOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICELebanese Crisis

FBIS bureaus in the Middle East continue their intensive coverage of radios in Lebanon, Israel, and Syria relating to the Lebanese situation. U.S. embassies in the Middle East receive significant material by wire (Diplomatic Telecommunications Service) from the FBIS bureaus at the same time as Headquarters, as well as a daily roundup of Middle East media material prepared at the FBIS bureau in London. The value of the material to the embassies was indicated in a cable 23 June from the U.S. Embassy in Damascus which complained that FBIS material had been reduced because of a communications "minimize" at the Embassy, and asked that FBIS bureaus "resume transmission" of material relating to the crisis because the reduction had "hampered our reporting." [redacted]

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Falklands War

With the end of the fighting in the Falklands, the head of the BBC Monitoring Service, David Witherow, expressed the appreciation of the British for material supplied by FBIS from the Argentine radios and press agencies. Witherow, in a message to the Director, FBIS, said British "official customers have found the monitored material we have been able to pass on to them of great value, and interest in the area is clearly going to remain at a high level for the foreseeable future." [redacted]

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Service to Host Governments

As part of the quid pro quo for permitting FBIS to operate in a country, the local FBIS bureau often responds to requests from the host government, usually communicated to FBIS through the Ambassador or other U.S. Embassy officials. Recently Ivorian Foreign Minister Ake requested through the U.S. Embassy in Abidjan that FBIS provide him with material concerning the reestablishment of diplomatic relations between Zaire and Israel. Among the items FBIS furnished to the Foreign Minister were statements and press comment from various African and Arab countries. Material was from the monitoring of the FBIS Abidjan Bureau as well as from other FBIS facilities. As a matter of routine, FBIS provides significant news items to the Ivorian Foreign Ministry in French, which was part of the original agreement that resulted in establishment of FBIS in the Ivory Coast. [redacted]

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'Carlos' Photograph

FBIS noticed a photograph in a French publication that purported to be a recent photo of the international terrorist "Carlos." The photo was passed to the DDI's Instability and Insurgency Center which in turn obtained an analysis from OTS' Disguises and Identifications Unit. Comparing the photo with earlier pictures of "Carlos," OTS reached the conclusion that the photo depicted the terrorist after plastic surgery. The Directorate of Operations noted that this is possibly the first photo of "Carlos" since 1975-76 when he dropped out of sight. OCR is handling distribution of the photo, including 60 copies for DO and its European stations.

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